

Message Text

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PAGE 01 JIDDA 00299 151035Z

15 L
ACTION EA-10

INFO OCT-01 NEA-09 ISO-00 PM-03 NSC-05 SP-02 SS-15 RSC-01

CIAE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 L-02 DODE-00 PRS-01 (ISO) W
----- 035159

R 150900Z JAN 75
FM AMEMBASSY JIDDA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9831
INFO AMEMBASSY MANILA
AMEMBASSY KUALA LUMPUR
AMEMBASSY JAKARTA

C O N F I D E N T I A L JIDDA 0299

E.O.: 11652: GDS
TAGS: PFOR, SA, RP
SUBJ: NEGOTIATIONS WITH PHILIPPINE MUSLIM INSURGENTS

REF : A. MANILA 0107; B. MANILA 0460

1. DIRECTOR OF EASTERN AFFAIRS IN THE FOREIGN MINISTRY, AHMED SIRAJ, TOLD US JANUARY 14 THAT PHILIPPINE EXECUTIVE SECRETARY MELCHOR HAD ARRIVED IN JIDDA AND ALREADY MET WITH ISLAMIC SECRETARIAT SEC GEN TUHAIMY. NEGOTIATIONS ARE SCHEDULED TO BEGIN IMMEDIATELY WITH REPRESENTATIVES OF THE IM INSURGENTS (SIRAJ'S TERM) WHO ARE NOW IN JIDDA. BOTH SIDES ARE GUESTS OF THE SAG.

2. UNFORTUNATELY, SIRAJ NOTED, THE MUSLIM REPRESENTATIVES ARE SECOND ECHELON AND MELCHOR WILL NOT HIMSELF, THEREFORE, SIT DOWN WITH THEM AT THE NEGOTIATING TABLE. TALKS ON THE GOP SIDE WILL BE HANDLED BY THE PHILIPPINE AMBASSADOR IN JIDDA WHO IS HIMSELF A MUSLIM.

3. SIRAJ IS UNDER THE IMPRESSION THAT MELCHOR HAS BROAD NEGOTIATING AUTHORITY AND IS HOPEFUL THAT AGREEMENT MIGHT ACTUALLY BE REACHED DURING THE PRESENT NEGOTIATIONS IN JIDDA, THOUGH HE EXPECTS THERE WOULD HAVE TO BE A DELAY WHILE THE MUSLIM DELEGATION GOT TOP-LEVEL APPROVAL OF ANY AGREEMENT.
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MENT. HE DOES NOT THINK THAT ANY AGREEMENT CAN DO MORE THAN

STOP THE FIGHTING; THE PROBLEMS OF THE MUSLIM COMMUNITY
WILL TAKE YEARS TO RESOLVE.
AKINS

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NNN

Message Attributes

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